

Serial Number 09/390,363

REMARKS

Claim 18 has been amended to include the limitations of claim 19, which originally depended from claim 18 and is indicated as allowable in item 11 on page 4 of the Official Action. Claims 19-27, 32, and 33 all depend from amended claim 18.

Claim 30 has been re-written in independent form to include the limitations of each of claims 18, 28, and 29, from which it originally depended. Claim 30 was indicated as being directed to allowable subject matter in item 11 on page 4 of the Official Action. Claim 31 depends from amended claim 30.

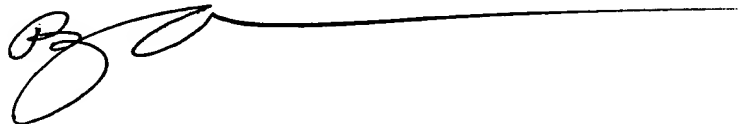
Therefore, each of claims 18-33 is now directed to subject matter indicated in the Official Action as allowable, thereby rendering the rejections of claims 18, 26-29, 32, and 33 moot.

Claims 1-17 and 34-50 have already been allowed, as indicated in item 10 on page 4 of the Official Action.

Having thus overcome each of the rejections made in the Official Action, expedited passage of the application to issue is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

BACON & THOMAS, PLLC

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'B. Urcia', followed by a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Date: November 14, 2005

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